

## **REMARKS**

As noted in the listing of claims above, Applicants rewrite allowable claims 4 and 28 in independent format to include the features of the base claim(s) on which they depend. Hence, claims 4 and 28 and claims dependent thereon (i.e., claims 5-6 and 29-32) are in condition for allowance. Applicants cancel rejected claims 1-3, 7-8, 23-26, 27 and 33 without prejudice to expedite prosecution of the present application. The cancellation of these claims should not be construed as acquiescence to the reasons provided in the Office Action for their rejection. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the canceled claims in future continuing applications.

### **Allowed Claims**

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation allowance of claims 9-22.

### **Allowable Claims**

The Office Action deems claims 4-6 and 28-32 as allowable if rewritten in independent format to include the features of claims on which they depend.

Accordingly, as indicated above, claim 4 is rewritten in independent format to include the features of claims 2 and 1 on which it depends. Hence, claim 4 is in condition for allowance. Claim 5 depends on claim 4, and claim 6 depends on claim 5. Hence, claims 5 and 6 are also in condition for allowance.

Similarly, allowable claim 28 is rewritten in an independent format to include the features of claim 27 on which it depends. Thus, claim 28 and allowable claims 29-32 that depend either directly or indirectly on claim 28 are also in condition for allowance.

### **Rejections Under 35 USC 102**

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3, 7-8, 23-26, 27 and 33 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,901,136 of Lovelace.

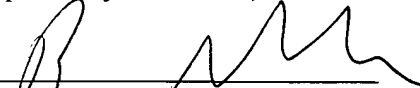
As noted above, these claims are canceled without prejudice. Accordingly, their rejections are moot and will not be discussed any further.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the application. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned at (617) 439-2514 if there are any questions.

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Respectfully submitted,

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